

Two important meetings in 1999

**Eleanor Fairbairn-Wilson,
Central West Regional Group**

The Central West Regional Group met twice in 1999, once in April and again in December.

On Friday 16 April 1999 members from Bathurst, Orange, Dubbo and Trangie gathered at Dubbo Public Library to hear a presentation about library and industrial employment issues. Phil Teece, ALIA manager personnel and industrial relations, gave a very interesting talk on the Pay Equity Enquiry — the background and the report. The talk was given under difficult circumstances as Phil had a cold, but he certainly was able to hold our attention. Unfortunately the expected representative from Library Locums was unable to attend. However, the group was able to study and discuss the Library Locums annual salary survey.

Helen Mandl, a member of the Division Restructure Sub-committee of the Renewal Working Group addressed the December meeting of the group. She spoke about the proposed models of how ALIA will work in the future. ■

Promoting school libraries in New South Wales

Ian McLean, president School Libraries Section (NSW Group)

School Libraries Section (New South Wales group) has operated with a diminished committee this year, but we have achieved some very important successes.

Our major publishing venture in 1999 was to commission a designer to produce two sets of durable information skills posters for use in schools, drawing from the NSW Department of Education and Training's document, 'Information skills in the school' (1989). These posters very quickly became a financial success. They were purchased by schools all over Australia. Profits from sale of the posters will assist Schools Section to finance a writing project for the year 2000.

Our professional development activities are usually well attended, but a most popular and successful day was the one devoted to the new 'Human society and its environment' (HSIE) syllabuses and the implications for primary school teacher-librarians (Syllabus K-6) and secondary teacher-librarians (that is, the changes to the Higher School Certificate). Speakers included representatives of Board of Studies New South Wales, district HSIE consultants and teams of teacher-librarians and teachers.

A combined Book Week event at Gleebooks, Sydney, was organised with ASLA New South Wales (Australian School Libraries Association). This was more low key and social, with guest speaker author Anna Fienberg. ■

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